

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 7, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in strong support of Governor Brown's request for a major federal disaster declaration for California following the March 11, 2011 tsunami.

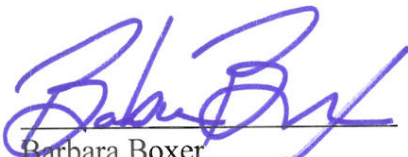
The tsunami's surge along the California coastline destroyed public and private property, damaged docks, sunk vessels, and forced local businesses to close. Thousands of residents were evacuated from their homes and numerous emergency shelters were opened.

In the days following the tsunami, the Governor declared a state of emergency for Del Norte, Humboldt, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Mendocino, and San Luis Obispo counties. Current statewide damage assessments are estimated at over \$48 million, exceeding California's FEMA damage threshold of \$44 million.

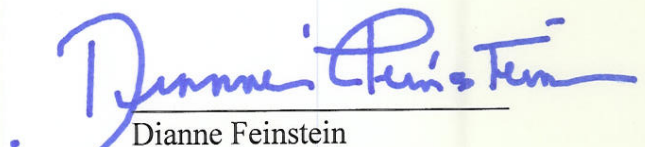
The California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and other federal agencies have been working with our counties to completely assess the damages and begin long-term clean-up and reconstruction efforts. With state resources stretched thin, we also support the Governor's request for hazard mitigation assistance that will provide essential funding to safeguard our communities against future disasters.

We stand ready to assist you in expediting resources and support to those California communities impacted by the tsunami and appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator